

Serial No. 10/720,729

Art Unit: 1723

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 10 and 13 through 20 are pending in the application. Claims 11 and 12 are canceled.

Claims 1 through 4, 6 through 15 and 17 through 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,928,965 to Dormeyer, hereinafter "Dormeyer". Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 1 provides an immersion blender including an elongated body for containing a drive motor, a first handle and a second handle operatively connected to the first handle, a drive shaft operatively connected to the drive motor, and a tool operatively connected to the drive shaft. The body and the drive shaft extend along a first axis that is at least substantially perpendicular to a working surface of the blender. The first handle has a shape that accommodates a palm of a user's hand, and has a portion elongated along a second axis that is oriented at least substantially parallel to the working surface. The elongated portion is centered about the first axis. The second handle is a portion of the elongated body and has a shape that accommodates the palm of the user's hand.

Dormeyer discloses an electric food mixer including a casing 40 that is provided with a pair of handles 96, one located at each of the side walls of the casing (page 2, lines 18-20). Casing 40 is provided with a plurality of ventilation holes 182 (page 4, lines 148-149). An upper wall 89 of casing 40 receives an insulated thumbpiece 214 having a lower portion for supporting a movable contact 196 (page 5, lines 82-91). Movable contact 196 connects in a circuit at various positions, and changing a position of thumbpiece 214 results in a changed rate of speed of the motor (page 5, lines 129-147).

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